



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Robert WENZ et al.

Examiner: C. Azpiru

Serial No.: 09/853,042

Group Art Unit: 1615

Filed: May 11, 2001

Title: BIOCEMENTS HAVING IMPROVED COMPRESSIVE STRENGTH

LETTER RE: SEARCH REPORT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Enclosed herewith is a search report from the corresponding European Patent application, EP 1 453 621. The search report cites four references which are enclosed. Also enclosed are copies of U.S. 5,141,561, which corresponds to EP 0 422 719, and U.S. 5,952,399 which corresponds to DE 197 41 286.

Respectfully submitted.

Brion P. Heaney (Arty Reg. No. 32,542)

Attorney for Applicant(s)

MILLEN, WHITE, ZELANO & BRANIGAN, P.C. Arlington Courthouse Plaza 1, Suite 1400 2200 Clarendon Boulevard Arlington, Virginia 22201 Telephone: (703) 243-6333

Facsimile: (703) 243-6410

Attorney Docket No.: Merck 2238

Date: October 1, 2002 K:\Merck\2238\LetterReSR.dot RECEIVED

OCT 0 3 2002

TECH CENTER 1600/2900